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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

11 October 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fresno - Woman Uses \$4.9 Million Dollar Trial Settlement to Purchase Guns for Gang

(U) Police arrested Christina Lopez, 42, for using money obtained in a settlement to purchase guns for her other son and gang members. Lopez received \$4.9 million from the city in April for the death of her 16-year-old son, Isiah Murrietta-Golding, who was shot and killed as he ran away from officers attempting to detain or arrest him in 2017. The settlement was one of the largest in the city's history. The Fresno County District Attorney said that Lopez used funds from the settlement to purchase weapons for her 14-year-old son to distribute to his gang. Lopez faces 22 counts of gun trafficking charges, including conspiracy to provide firearms to a minor for the benefit of a street gang, child endangerment, and conspiracy to provide a firearm to a gang member.

SOURCE: 10 October 2021, New York Post

(U) Hawthorne – Man Dead After Driving onto Sidewalk to Strike Pedestrians

(U) A man died after driving onto a sidewalk in an attempt to strike pedestrians before bystanders pulled him out of the car and allegedly attacked him. The driver was involved in a verbal altercation inside a business in Hawthorne and was asked to leave. According to the release, the man left but returned and drove his truck onto the sidewalk, nearly hitting multiple people. He eventually lost control of his car and struck a tree. Bystanders tried to pull the man out of his truck, but he sped away before crashing into a building. The bystanders then pulled him out of the car, and a physical altercation ensued. The driver's identity has not been released. His cause of death will be determined by the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

SOURCE: 11 October 2021, CNN

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Smuggler Crashes into Gas Pipeline During Pursuit

(U) Edinburg – On 7 October, Kingsville Border Patrol Station agents observed suspicious activity and attempted to conduct a vehicle stop on a black truck. The vehicle failed to yield and led the agent on a vehicle pursuit. The agent lost sight of the vehicle after it rammed through a private property gate and continued driving off the road. After approximately three hours, the truck was found wrecked into a gas pipeline. Agents encountered an injured female about 30-yards from the abandoned truck and the leaking pipeline. They immediately provided first aid and requested emergency medical services, who transported her to the hospital. The driver of the truck and additional subjects were not located. SOURCE: 8 October 2021, CBP

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama - Chinese National Charged with Arson Fire at Historic Church

(U) Montgomery – Xioaquin Yan, an alleged illegal alien from China, is facing a federal second-degree arson charge after allegedly setting fire to the historic First Baptist Church, which is attended by the state's governor, Kay Ivey. Yan allegedly set fire to the church on 30 September 2021. A sworn

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statement by a federal agent says that Yan raised suspicions with a comment about "rich white men" running the church. A couple of weeks before the fire, church security had previously interacted with an Asian female acting suspiciously. Prior to escorting her off the premises, security obtained the license plate number from the vehicle she was driving.

SOURCE: 11 October 2021, Daily Wire

(U) Florida – Oath Keeper Arrested for Taking Part in Capitol Riot and Federal Firearms Charges

(U) Tampa – Jeremy Michael Brown, a self-identified member of the Oath Keepers, was arrested on federal firearms charges and taking part in the US Capitol Riot. A complaint argues that Brown entered and remained in a restricted building, and engaged in disorderly and disruptive conduct during the Capitol riot. According to the complaint, another defendant who pled guilty in the Oath Keepers conspiracy case told investigators he went to Brown's home on 4 January in preparation for traveling to Washington, DC. A second complaint charges Brown with possession of a short barrel rifle, sawed-off shotgun, and two hand grenades after federal agents executed a search warrant at his home last week. SOURCE: 8 October 2021, WFLA

(U) Pennsylvania – Flights Carrying Afghans from Ramstein to US Resume After 3-week Pause

(U) Philadelphia – Hundreds of Afghan refugees left Ramstein Air Base as flights to the US resumed following a three-week pause. In mid-September, flights were abruptly halted when four measles cases were discovered among Afghans who had arrived in the US from overseas bases. Around 300 evacuees were on board a specially chartered flight that left Ramstein bound for Philadelphia. Officials at Ramstein expect to fly around 1,000 evacuees a day to the US in the coming days. Officials estimate that roughly 9,000 Afghans who have been living at Ramstein and nearby Rhine Ordnance Barracks will have left Germany in a little more than a week.

SOURCE: 8 October 2021, Stars and Stripes

(U) West Virginia - Navy Engineer and Wife Charged with Trying to Share Secrets with Foreign Country

(U) Jefferson County – A US Navy nuclear engineer and his wife have been charged with repeatedly trying to pass secrets about US nuclear submarines to a foreign country in an alleged espionage plot discovered by the FBI. According to a criminal complaint, Jonathan Toebbe, 42, who has a top-secret clearance, passed and continued to pass Restricted Data as defined by the Atomic Energy Act to a foreign government with the witting assistance of his spouse Diana Toebbe. Mr. Toebbe has worked for the Navy since 2012. Mr. and Mrs. Toebbe were arrested after allegedly placing a data card at a secret dead-drop site.

SOURCE: 10 October 2021, Washington Post

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Police Intercept 652 Central American Migrants in Three Cargo Trucks

(U) Ciudad Victoria – Police in northern Mexico discovered more than 600 Central American migrants hiding in three long cargo trucks headed to the US in one of the biggest roundups of US-bound migrants by Mexican authorities in years. Almost 200 of the 652 migrants found in the white refrigerated trucks were unaccompanied children and teens. Nearly 90% of the migrants found in the trucks were Guatemalans. Hondurans, Salvadorans, Nicaraguans, and one migrant from Belize were also among those being processed. Police arrested four individuals, but it was not clear if they were suspected of being smugglers.

SOURCE: 8 October 2021, The Guardian

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(U) Kosovo – Police Arrest Five Suspects for Plotting Terrorist Attacks

(U) Pristina – Kosovo's Special Prosecution announced the arrests of five persons suspected of planning terrorist actions against the country's constitutional order and security. Police seized explosive devices, firearms, drones, and anti-tank weapons during an operation conducted after several months of covert investigation and surveillance. The five were part of a radical Islamic extremist group. All of them have been arrested before for being part of such groups.

SOURCE: 11 October 2021, Balkan Insight

(U) Ukraine – Americans Being Investigated for War Crimes Committed While Fighting with Extremists

(U) Kyiv – The US Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI are investigating a group of seven American fighters under the federal war crimes statute. Authorities suspect that members of an extremist paramilitary group allegedly tortured noncombatants while fighting in Eastern Ukraine. After taking noncombatants as prisoners, the men reportedly beat them with their fists, kicked them, struck them with a sock filled with stones, and held them underwater. Based on video and photo evidence and interviews with some American fighters, alleges that one American, Craig Lang, was the primary instigator, according to the DOJ. Lang is wanted in Florida to face trial for the 2018 killings of Deana and Serafin Lorenzo.

SOURCE: 8 October 2021, <u>Buzzfeed News</u>

(U) United Arab Emirates - Man Arrested for Smuggling Half-Ton of Cocaine in Shipping Container

(U) Dubai – Halil Dasuki, an Israeli man, was arrested in Dubai on suspicion of drug trafficking. Dasuki was involved in a scheme to smuggle half-a-ton of cocaine into the United Arab Emirates. Dasuki is suspected of being involved in plans to smuggle the drugs into Dubai and then to Israel. The reports came as Emirati police displayed 500-kilograms of cocaine, valued at \$136 million, that were seized as part of an operation. Dasuki is well known to law enforcement authorities in Israel and has a criminal past. Last year, a police sting in Israel involving half-a-kilo of cocaine caught Dasuki and his brother. Though charges were filed against the brother and others, there was insufficient evidence to indict Dasuki himself.

SOURCE: 10 October 2021, Times of Israel

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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